

FRANK R. WOLF
10TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:

RANKING MEMBER—COMMERCE-JUSTICE-
SCIENCE

TRANSPORTATION-HUD

CO-CHAIR—TOM LANTOS
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

May 19, 2010

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The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary of State
2201 C St NW Ste 7276
Washington DC 20520

Dear Secretary Clinton:

I write today to express my grave concern regarding the recent deportation of approximately 40 American citizens from Morocco without due process, which I believe calls into question the continuance of Morocco's Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) funding.

In September 2008, the clock started for the official five-year period for project implementation under the MCC Compact with Morocco. The United States has pledged \$697.5 million in assistance to the Kingdom of Morocco through this Compact. As a precondition to receiving MCC funds, the government of Morocco was evaluated on 17 key indicators of eligibility, six of which fall under the category of "ruling justly." I submit, however, that these recent events raise valid questions regarding the Moroccan government's willingness to abide by the principles outlined in the MCC indicators.

In early March, the Moroccan government deported approximately 40 U.S. citizens and scores of other foreign nationals for allegedly proselytizing, which is against Moroccan law. However, authorities presented no evidence or explanation of the proselytizing allegations. Among the individuals who were deported or denied reentry were businessmen, educators, and humanitarian and social workers. Many of these individuals have resided in Morocco for over a decade in full compliance with Moroccan law.

Additionally, those deported were forced to leave the country within two hours of being questioned by authorities, leaving all their belongings behind. The manner in which these expulsions were carried out and the Moroccan government's refusal to grant those affected with a hearing flies in the face of the principles of due process. Furthermore, the manner in which authorities expelled these individuals violates not only the general principles of international law but Moroccan law, as well.

The mandate of the MCC is based on the assumption that "aid is most effective when it reinforces good governance." Rather than making strides toward accountable and democratic governance since receiving the MCC grant, Morocco has regressed. Freedom House's annual *Freedom in the World Report* noted backsliding in Morocco "due to the increased concentration

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
May 19, 2010
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of power in the hands of political elites aligned with the monarchy" over the course of the last year.

At a time when the United States owes more in debts and commitments than the total combined net worth of all Americans, it is unacceptable to provide \$697.5 million in taxpayer dollars to a nation which blatantly disregards the rights of American citizens residing in Morocco and forcibly expels American citizens without due process of law.

The decision to suspend a MCC Compact due to a significant deterioration in good governance is not unprecedented. At my urging, the Board chose to suspend the MCC Compact with Nicaragua due to the violence and blatant thuggery exhibited by the regime of President Daniel Ortega surrounding the November 2008 elections.

The United States must send a message to the Moroccan government that it is unacceptable to expel American citizens without due process under the law. I ask that you withhold Morocco's MCC funding until the government of Morocco demonstrates that it is willing to follow its own laws thus ensure that those expelled receive a fair trial and work toward a mutually acceptable solution to this matter.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and I look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,

Frank R. Wolf
Member of Congress

CC: The Honorable Timothy F. Geithner
Ambassador Ron Kirk
Administrator Rajiv Shah
Mr. Daniel W. Yohannes
Mr. Lorne W. Craner
Senator William H. Frist, M.D.
Mr. Alan J. Patricof





FRANK R. WOLF
10TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
May 25, 2010

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The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary of State
2201 C St NW Ste 7276
Washington DC 20520

Dear Secretary Clinton:

I am writing to follow up on my letter dated May 19 regarding the Millennium Challenge Corporation compact with Morocco.

Enclosed please find a copy of an article from *Time* magazine regarding the recent crackdown on Christian aid workers in Morocco. Sadly, since this article was published, many more have been expelled. I encourage you to go to the following link to view the heart-wrenching footage of Moroccan orphans being forcibly separated from their foster parents:
<http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,1973739,00.html>

The deportation of foreign Christian aid workers has also curbed religious freedom amongst Morocco's indigenous Christian community. U.S.-based NGO, International Christian Concern, reported that a pastor near Marrakech stated, "We have stopped all worship activity. We are afraid that they will attack us if we are in meetings, so there is no meeting. We think the next step may be against Moroccans."

I urge you to immediately suspend the MCC compact with Morocco until the government of Morocco commits to resolving this situation and providing legal protection for religious communities in accordance with international legal norms.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I look forward to your response.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Frank R. Wolf
Member of Congress

Enclosure

CC: Millennium Challenge Corporation Board

FRANK R. WOLF
10TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:

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SCIENCE

TRANSPORTATION-HUD

CO-CHAIR—TOM LANTOS
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

June 8, 2010

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The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary of State
2201 C St NW Ste 7276
Washington DC 20520

Dear Secretary Clinton:

I write today to express my growing concern about the deteriorating situation in Morocco and urge you in your capacity as the chair of the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) Board to act rapidly to suspend the compact with Morocco.

It has come to my attention that last week the Moroccan government chose to reject the visa renewal applications of four additional American citizens. All four Americans were engaged in humanitarian work in Morocco. The Moroccan government refused to accept visa renewal applications from two of the individuals who were subsequently forced to leave the country. A third American was given 48 hours to leave Morocco after attempting to renew her green card, and the fourth was denied re-entry.

I have raised these issues with the chair and ranking member of the House State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee and asked them to look into suspending disbursement of the funds designated for the MCC Compact with the Kingdom of Morocco. In a time of economic hardship, it is unacceptable for American taxpayer money to go to a nation that expels American citizens.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter, and I look forward to your response.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Frank R. Wolf
Member of Congress

CC: Millennium Challenge Corporation Board

Really need your help. Thank You

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